

HONORING SHERIFF JAMES L. KNIGHT ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM LAW ENFORCEMENT

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize my longtime friend and constituent, Sheriff James L. Knight as he retires at the end of February after serving 20 years as the top law enforcement officer for Edgecombe County, North Carolina and more than 33 years in law enforcement. Sheriff Knight is the first African American to serve in this position in Edgecombe County.

James L. Knight was born on July 19, 1959 in the Town of Macclesfield and is the youngest of nine children born to Annie Mae and Willie W. Knight. He attended Living Hope Elementary School in Macclesfield and South Edgecombe High School in Pinetops where he graduated in 1977.

After graduation, Mr. Knight enlisted in the United States Army and served as part of the 82nd Airborne at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He was a model soldier and was awarded the Parachute Badge, Expert Badge M-16, Humanitarian Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Good Conduct Medal, and two letters of commendation. He was Honorably Discharged in 1980 having earned the rank of Specialist E-4.

Sheriff Knight began his law enforcement career with the Edgecombe County Sheriff's Office in July 1984 as a Detention Officer. He rose through the ranks serving first as Deputy Sheriff and later as Detective, where he remained until he was appointed Sheriff of Edgecombe County by the Edgecombe County Democratic Party Executive Committee in 1997, when then-Sheriff Phil Ellis resigned from the position. Sheriff Knight has faithfully served the people of Edgecombe County as Sheriff for the last 20 years and has been re-elected to this office every four years since being appointed.

Sheriff Knight manages more than 100 employees, including over fifty certified officers. Under Sheriff Knight's direction, these officers cover over 526 square miles and are charged with protecting nearly 60,000 Edgecombe County residents.

A dedicated public servant, Sheriff Knight implemented the D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) Program within Edgecombe County Schools. D.A.R.E. is an officer-led series of classroom lessons that teaches fifth graders how to resist peer pressure and live productive drug and violence-free lives. There is no doubt that Sheriff Knight had a profound and positive impact on an entire generation of young people. His positive influence continues today.

Sheriff Knight has always been known as a true public servant who is always eager and willing to serve. His long held goal has been to provide effective and efficient law enforcement service while building strong and trusting relationships with the citizens. He has certainly achieved that goal and so much more.

Sheriff Knight's dedication to and impact in Edgecombe County is seen far beyond the walls of the Sheriff's Department. He has been a strong catalyst in improving and positively

impacting the lives of Edgecombe County citizens. In recognition of his selfless work, Sheriff Knight has received numerous awards including the Citizen of the Year, James B. Hunt, Jr. Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Volunteer Services, and a Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Law Enforcement.

Sheriff Knight has served and continues to serve on several boards including the United Way, Boy Scouts of America, Governor's Crime Commission, National Sheriffs' Association, North State Law Enforcement Officers Association, and the North Carolina Sheriffs' Association where he served as the President of the executive committee. He even proudly represented his community as an Olympic Torch Bearer in the lead up to the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, Georgia.

At every step along his storied life, Sheriff James L. Knight has been accompanied by his wife, the former Margaret Sharpe. The two were married on August 1, 1982. Together, they have two children, James Jr. and Jamina, and one grandson Jayden. They attend Anderson Chapel Baptist Church in Macclesfield where Sheriff Knight serves on the Board of Deacons.

Mr. Speaker, Sheriff James L. Knight has dedicated his entire adult life to public service. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the dedication and selflessness displayed by Sheriff Knight over more than 30 years first as a soldier, then as a Corrections Officer, Deputy Sheriff, Detective, and finally as Sheriff of Edgecombe County. While Sheriff Knight is deserving of far greater accolades from a grateful public, my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in expressing our sincere appreciation for Sheriff Knight's hard work and sacrifice.

A TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM SCALES

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate William Scales for being named a 2017 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2017 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 680 past business leaders and growing.

William is a member attorney at Whitfield & Eddy Law Firm in Des Moines, tirelessly advocating for his clients and passionate about making Des Moines a better community. Outside of his law practice, William is an Associate Fellow in the Litigation Counsel of America, and has been active with the Greater Des Moines Partnership's Youth Leadership Initiative and several other community-centered organizations. William served in the U.S. Army

as an Air Defense Officer from 2004–2008, and this year will be marrying the love of his life, Erica.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like William in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating William on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2017 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

IN HONOR OF HENRY L. "HANK"
AARON

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and privilege to rise today to recognize a legendary baseball player, great philanthropist, and outstanding citizen, Henry L. "Hank" Aaron. Hank and his wife, Billye, will be honored by the Mobile Area Mardi Gras Association (MAMGA) in Mobile, Alabama on February 26–27, 2017.

Henry Louis Aaron was born in Mobile, Alabama, on February 5, 1934, the third of eight children born to Herbert and Estella Aaron. Hank was interested in sports from an early age. Although he worked several jobs to help support his family, he spent a lot of time playing baseball at a neighborhood park. He transferred to the Allen Institute in Mobile his junior year of high school to participate in the school's organized baseball program.

After graduating from high school, Hank began to make a name for himself playing with local amateur and semi-pro teams, including the Pritchett Athletics and the Mobile Black Bears. In 1951, Hank was signed as a shortstop for the Indianapolis Clowns, which was part of the professional Negro American League. In 1952, the Boston Braves purchased his contract and he was assigned to Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Hank batted .336 and won the minor Northern League's Rookie of the Year Award. He was then assigned to the Braves' Jacksonville, Florida team, in the South Atlantic (Sally) League. Despite enduring racial insults from fans and fellow players alike, Hank batted .362, with 22 homers and 125 runs batted in. He was named the league's Most Valuable Player in 1953.

In 1954, Hank began to play for the Braves' major league team. After the 1965 season, the Braves moved to Atlanta, where on April 8, 1974, Hank hit his 715th career home run, breaking Babe Ruth's 39-year-old Major League record. By the time he retired in 1976, Hank had raised his all-time homer output to 755. But although Hank had retired from baseball, baseball had not retired from him. He became Vice President and Director of Player Development for the Braves, scouting new team prospects and overseeing the coaching of minor leaguers, before becoming Senior Vice President for the team. Due to his efforts, the Braves became one of the strongest teams in the National League.

While many people know of Hank Aaron because of his accomplishments in baseball, it is

Hank's philanthropy that truly sets him apart. In 1995, Hank and Billye established the Hank Aaron Chasing the Dream Foundation to give young people with limited opportunities a chance to pursue their dreams. While Hank had initially envisioned helping 755 youngsters, the Foundation has provided vital financial assistance to more than 1,000 young people. The Foundation provides scholarships to college students and partners with Boys and Girls Clubs throughout the country to help young people develop their talents.

Hank has received numerous awards and tributes for both his athletic ability and his charitable efforts. In 1982, he was voted into the Baseball Hall of Fame at Cooperstown, New York. In 1997, Hank Aaron Stadium in Mobile was dedicated to him. In 1999, Congress passed a resolution recognizing him as one of baseball's greatest players and praising his work with the Chasing the Dream Foundation. That year, Major League Baseball announced the creation of the Hank Aaron Award, given annually to the best overall hitter in each league. In 2002, Hank received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian award of the United States.

On a personal note, I am proud to consider Hank and the Aaron family friends of long-standing. He and I grew up in the same area of Mobile, Toulminville, and his sister, Alfredia, was my classmate from elementary school through Central High School Class of 1964. She and her husband, Congressman DAVID SCOTT, continue to be dear friends to my wife and me.

Indeed, Hank is a baseball legend but he is also an entrepreneur, civil rights leader, philanthropist, humanitarian and just an outstanding human being, period. His humility is unparalleled and his heart for helping others has made a tremendous impact throughout our nation and the world. He continues to make Mobilians proud.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and my wife, Vivian, in recognizing the perseverance, generosity, and legacy of Hank and Billye Aaron. Winston Churchill said: "You make your living by what you get, you make a life by what you give." The Aarons embody this ideal perfectly and their spirit of giving is making lives for generations yet to come.

A CONSTITUENT'S VIEW ON THE STATE OF OUR NATION

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise on behalf of my constituent, Ed Rapp, from Peoria, Illinois. Mr. Rapp recently retired as a top executive and group president from Caterpillar Inc. after thirty-six years of tremendous and admirable service to the company and the Peoria community. He was recently diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease and turned his focus to raising awareness and supporting those in search of a cure. The following is an open letter Mr. Rapp penned to his grandson:

AN APOLOGY TO MY GRANDSON COLE

On the heels of a frustrating election, the combination of reading "Hamilton" and seeing the Chicago Cubs win the World Series, I'm compelled to put my thoughts down in

writing taking the form of an apology to my grandson, and the next generation of Americans. "Hamilton" reminded me of the combination of leadership and compromise demonstrated by our Founding Fathers. And the Cubs showed us that, against the odds of history, if you improve competitiveness, you can compete and win. (And let the record show that I—a die-hard St. Louis Cardinals fan—can appreciate that feat!)

Fortunately, what was the most disappointing election process in my history is behind us. My words are not aimed at one party or the other as I am equally frustrated by both sides. Our leaders spend too much time trying to defeat the opposing party instead of focusing on how to make sure that America competes and wins.

At 59 years old, my generation inherited the most competitive country in the world, and that competitiveness led to the highest standard of living in the world. We seem to have overlooked the direct correlation between a country's competitiveness and the standard of living of its citizens.

The Cubs championship team stands as a first class example of how changing the way you compete can change your results. If you want to improve your competitiveness, you adapt. New leadership made great draft choices that complemented wily veterans, ending more than a century of losing.

The same opportunities are afforded to this great nation (yes, it should be noted I remain optimistic about this country's future). However, what lies ahead won't be easy. It will require strong leaders like Hamilton, compromise by both parties and an understanding that it is all about competitiveness.

Like it or not, our infrastructure is in a state of disrepair and we have not addressed its long term funding in more than 20 years. The build-out of our US highway system in the 1960s ignited one of the greatest economic booms in history. But we haven't re-invested. The road to progress still begins with a road, period.

We have gone from having one of the most competitive corporate tax rates in 1986 to being the laggard amongst OECD countries. While the rest of the world has gone to a territorial system, we are still living in the past with our worldwide system. With a corporate tax rate 56 percent higher than the average of other OECD countries, is it any wonder companies want to locate in other parts of the world?

We also seem to have forgotten that our country was built by immigrants. We must remain a nation where the world's best and brightest come to innovate and create new businesses. We can't continue to provide world-class college education to young minds from around the world, and then tell them to pack their bags.

The political debate criticized global trade. Have we forgotten the U.S. is only five percent of the world's population and, for decades, led by example on free trade, which improves the standard of living of Americans and our trading partners? We need to move forward and trade is fundamental to growth. If countries turn nationalistic, we won't like the long term outcome (Brexit and backing out of the Trans Pacific Partnership really concern me).

I would offer my generation has made no meaningful progress on some of the core elements of competitiveness in decades (no major corporate tax or immigration reform since mid-1980s, no change on infrastructure funding since 1993, no major global trade deal since 1994) and, as illustrated above, the cost will be significant: a lower standard of living for the next generation. For this, I say to my grandson, I am sorry.

But, as emphasized up front, I remain optimistic. I really do hope and pray for the next

generation that Congress and the President work together to take on the challenges at hand. Be brave and compromise like Alexander Hamilton. Improve competitiveness like the Cubs. And, as we go about "Making America Great Again," let's just remember what made her great in the first place.

A TRIBUTE TO LARRY ANDERSON

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Larry Anderson for being named a 2017 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2017 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 680 past business leaders and growing.

Larry is a Business Development Officer with Central Bank. He is co-founder of the non-profit organization, Art for Ankeny, dedicated to installing public art across Ankeny. In addition, Larry serves on multiple boards for the City of Ankeny and is active on Grand View University's Business Advisory Board. Larry has been recognized for his exemplary dedication to the welfare of the Ankeny community with awards from Ankeny Young Professionals, the Ankeny Chamber of Commerce, and by being named a finalist for the Young Professional of the Year Impact Award.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Larry in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Larry on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2017 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

HONORING NEW JERSEY HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE TOMMY JAMES

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Cedar Grove resident and recent New Jersey Hall of Fame inductee, Tommy James. Mr. James is a pop-rock musician, singer, songwriter, record producer and is one of the fifteen new inductees to the New Jersey Hall of Fame.

America in the 1960s was a time of significant cultural and musical development. From Tommy James to the Beatles, Bob Dylan,